1	2
Maharashtra	22
Gujarat	12
Andhra Pradesh	6
Karnataka	4
Kerala	5
Pondicherry	1
Assam	1
Bihar	2
Orissa	1
West Bengal	12
Total	91

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to close down any of the mills under NTC. However. 36 unviable mills are proposed to be restructured into 18 viable mills by merger. as per the modernisation plan prepared by the Textile Research Associations.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Aeeietance from N.R.F.

2033. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has submitted any proposal for financial assistance from the National Renewal Fund;

(b) if so. the details thereof alongwith the decision taken thereon: and

(c) if not. by when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) to (c). Yes. Sir. Two proposals from the Government of Gujarat have been received for assistance from the National Renewal Fund for restructuring of the Gujarat State Textile Corporation Ltd. and Area Regeneration Scheme for closed textile mills. under liquidation. The amount of assistance sought from the National Renewal Fund for the above two proposals is Rs.96.83 crores and Rs.168.37 croers. respectively. Assistance from National Renewal Fund is available only for Voluntary Retirement Schemes in Central Public Sector Enterprises and Schemes for counselling. retraining and redeployment of rationalised workers.

Export of Electronice and Computer Software

2034. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of electronics and computer software has increased during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so. the details thereof:

(c) the percentage of growth registered during the above period:

(d) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period: and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Yes. Sir. The details about export. percentage growth and foreign exchange earned are given below:-

(Value in Rs. Crore)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Electronic Hardware (% Growth)	1078.00	1507.00 (39.80)	2400.00 (59.26)
Computer Software (%Growth)	1020.00	1474.00 (44.51)	2650.00 (79.78)
Total Foreign exchange earned (%Growth)	2098.00	2981.00 (42.09)	5050.00 (69.41)

(Source Electronics &Computer Software Export Promotion Council)

(e) The various steps taken to boost the export of these products include participation in exclusive Indian shows/international exhibitions. sponsoring of market surveys etc. Besides. the general measures taken to boost exports include introduction of Electronic Hardware Technology Parks (EHTP) Scheme and Software Technology Parks(STP) Scheme. duty free import of raw materials/capital goods. Special Import Licence. exemption from Income Tax on profits accrued out of exports. assistance under Market Development Fund etc.

Export of Contaminated Wheat

2035. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipments of Indian wheat had run into problems in Turkey and Morocco with authorities there saying that the cargo was contaminated:

(b) if so. the details thereof and the ultimate fate of the contaminated wheat shipments:

(c) whether 21 countries have officially notified a ban on import of wheat infected with the Karnal bunt virus-fungus;

(d) if so. the details thereof: and

(e) the action taken by the Government for the proper inspection of the wheat consignments before their shipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b).Some consignments of wheat from India were detained by the Turkish and Moroccan authorities as they were found to be infected by Tilletia Indica (Karnal Bunt) fungus. All consignments, except one, have been re-exported from Turkey/Morocco. One consignment of wheat is still in quarantine in Morocco.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Norway, Bulgaria, Hungary, Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Russian Federation (including the independent Republics of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyztan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan), Algeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, China, Vietnam, New Zealand, El Salvador, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay have banned import of wheat infected with Tilletia Indica (Karnal Bunt) fungus. In addition Canada and Mexico are known to regulate the import of wheat from countries where Karnal Bunt is known to occur.

(e). Inspection of wheat for issuing Phytosanitary Certificate at the time of export for quarantine purposes is being carried out by the Directorate of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture or the Directors of State Agriculture authorised for this purpose by the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage.

Subsidy on Fruits

2036. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of subsidy provided by Agricultural and Processed Food products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to Lichi, Mango, Mushroom cultivators and exporters during each of the last three years:

(b) whether the subsidy given to them have been actually used and proportionate quantity of real export and cultivation took place during the above period:

(c) if so, whether the Government ever physically investigate in the actual operation in the field:

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to investigate the proper utilisation of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total amount of financial assistance provided by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under its various schemes as well as the air freight subsidy provided for selected floricultural and horticultural products and vegetables (including Lichi, Mangoes and Mushrooms) during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

1993-94	511.65
1994-95	615.14
1995-96	675.00

(b) to (d). Financial assistance is provided by APEDA on a reimbursement basis. The amount of financial assistance is released to the beneficiary only after the required expenditure has been icurred by the beneficiary on the approved items. In certain cases like infrastructure development i.e. pre-cooling units, grading/packaging units, refrigerated vehicles, quality control systems, financial assistance is released only after verification of the facility by APEDA.

(e) Does not arise.

Saving Rate

2037. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a considerable fall in saving rate in the country: and

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) As per the latest data available with the Central Statistical Organisation the saving rate measured as a ratio of gross domestic savings to gross deomestic product at current market prices showed a sharp increase from 21.4 per cent in 1993-94 (provisional) to 24.4 per cent in 1994-95 (Quick estimates).

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Meat and Livestock

2038 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of meat and livestock exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during 1995-96 in comparison to 1994-95, country-wise and item-wise:

(b) whether the Government have considered the modernisation of slaughter houses and factories in the country and to extend this facility to the exporters of meat and its products through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA): and

(c) if so, the details thereof: location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity of meat and livestock exported and the